Saturday, November 18, 1972

## Classes Open

# Guste Takes

**Calm on campus** — A Southern University in New Orleans student peers out on a quiet SUNO campus with classes suspended until after the Thanksgiving holidays. All is quiet, too, on SUNO's sister campus in Baton Rouge.

New Orleans, La. 10 Cents

## Nov. 27 at SUNO

# Over S.U. Probe

By BILL LYNCH
States-Item Staff Writer

BATON ROUGE—State Atty. Gen. William Guste today took over investigation of a police-student confrontation that left two young blacks dead at Southern University.

Gov. Edwin W. Edwards called on Guste to conduct the probe amid growing indications the youths were killed by police fire.

About 500 National Guardsmen called out to assist local police in maintaining order will remain on duty on an hour-by-hour basis, Edwards said.

The Southern campus was virtually deserted, with most of the 9,000 students leaving for home. Only foreign students and those from out of state were given permission to remain in the dormitories over the holidays.

STATE AND university officials were sending in food to students stranded without transportation.

Meanwhile, at Southern's New Orleans campus it was announced today that classes will resume Nov. 27 after the traditional Thanksgiving holidays.

THERE HAS been a general boycott of classes at SUNO since late last month.

Asa Sims, dean of academic affairs at SUNO, said today that student-faculty committees have reached accord on the 17 student grievances that set off the class boycott.

"We feel that classes now can be resumed in an orderly fashion pending final resolution of the grievances," Sims said. "It is essential that if we are to salvage this semester classes must resume Nov. 27 and that there be no further disruptions.

"It is hoped the student leadership and all students will give their support to an orderly resumption of classes."

Sims said SUNO offices will be open Monday and Tuesday of next week.

A football game scheduled for to-

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# Guste

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night between Southern-Baton Rouge and Grambling has been canceled. Edwards had planned to attend.

Edwards also invited the Justice Department to make its own inquiry or work in cooperation with the state. The Justice Department already had announced it was ordering the FBI to investigate the incident to determine if federal laws were violated. Federal Bureau of Investigation agents were on the scene hours after the confrontation.

**EMPTY SHOTGUN** shells that might have provided clues to what happened Thursday disappeared from the scene almost immediately after the confrontation.

**ONE OF THE** dead has been identified as Denver Smith, a 20-year-old student from New Roads. The other still is unidentified.

The East Baton Rouge Parish coroner has said both youths died of head wounds inflicted by No. 3 type buckshot.

The coroner, Dr. Hypolite Landry, and Edwards said the shots may have come from a police shotgun or possibly from a homemade bomb with pellets glued to the outer skin.

Landry's official report after autopsies ruled out the possibility the men may have died from fragments from a grenade, unless they were shotgun pellets.

Guste was named to lead the investigation although the case normally might fall within jurisdiction of the East Baton Rouge Parish district attorney.

The governor chose Guste because East Baton Rouge Parish district at- is regarded by the black community generally as a racist.

**AS HE ENTERED** the probe, Guste urged a moratorium on violence.

He said he believes "we should take pause to recognize that violence only begets vidence. We do need to be more alert to the legitimate complaints of citizens, but as well we have to be more firm where there are violations of laws.

"Right now, more than anything else in Louisiana we need a moratorium—a time for peace and a time for prayer."

The attoney general said such a moratorium would "give us the chance to collect ouselves and to think deeply about the problems that affect people, about the ways and means that we can use to insure peace, to cope with legitimate grievaces and try to make government more responsive to the needs of the peopl."

Edwards said state police at the scene insist they did not fire their weapons and Sheriff Al Amiss insisted his men fire only tear gas cartridges.

Edwards conceded it was possible a buckshot loaed shell may have been fired by mistke, felling the two victims in fron of the administration building which officials say was seized by the student.

The unidentfied victim was said to be about 20. The only markings on him were the initials "D P" on the pocket of a jacket, according to the coroner.

**EDWARDS SAID** the lack of papers on his person and the failure of officials and students from the university ot identify hin leads to the conclusion that he may not have been a student.

The governor reported he had received information that out of state non-students wre en route or already had arrived in the city.

The lack of shells may have wiped out the only clue that could provide a positive answer on whether police fired the pellets.

Maj. Fred Sliman of the sheriff's office said some of the shells were picked up by university officials, some probably by students and some by police. He said that after the initial confusion surrounding the rapid exchange of tear gas between police and students, he looked around and the empty cartridges had disappeared.

**HE SAID** at one point an ROTC official confronted a deputy sheriff with one of the empty cartridges and accused him of firing "live" ammunition. Sliman said he had another deputy show the ROTC captain, whose name was not given, a tear gas cartridge and showed them to be the same. He gave the shells to the official to keep, Sliman said.

"I looked around afterward," Sliman said, "and none was on the groun."

Amiss said he had instructed his deputies to fire only tear gas. He said he thought state police also had fired tear gas and that some had been fired from "Big Bertha," the armored vehicle used by the state police.

Films show that when the firing began, according to an administration official, the crowd broke to the left of the police ranks. The two men who were killed had their left sides, which were hit, toward police and were at the front of the crowd.

**EDWARDS SAID** films, which he had examined exhaustively, showed no one was between the victims and the police.

The governor also reported his previous statements that he was convinced by an examination of the films that the students fired the first missiles, whatever they were, and that police reacted to them.

He also discounted student claims they had not tried to take over the administration building and that Southern president Dr. G. Leon Netterville had invited them to stay in his office until he returned.

Several students have claimed they contacted Netterville early Thursday over concern about four other students who had been arrested.

**THE GOVERNOR** said the sequence of events and the shambles left of the offices of Netterville and his assistant refuted the student contentions. He said Netterville had informed the sheriff Wednesday afternoon, before the arrest on old charges of the four students, that students had planned to seize the administration building.

He said Netterville denied having invited the students to remain in his office and had asked them to leave.

Edwards, who says his own life has been threatened, said Netterville also has been threatened.

"We anticipate no further trouble," the governor said, "although we have some intelligence that people from other parts of the nation are en route or have arrived in Baton Rouge.

He said two persons were stopped Thursday night near the campus, but were identified as alumni and released although they had weapons in their car, including one without a serial number.

**THE GOVERNOR** said he was not attempting to evaluate the reports of outsiders moving into the area, but passing on the information.

He said he was not really certain how the two men died.

"I don't know where the shot came from," he said. "It possibly came from the police."

He then added it still is possible it may have come from a homemade bomb.

"I don't say how the men were killed."

After the shooting, fires broke out in two campus buildings and Edwards estimated damage at more than $200,000.

**HE SAID OF** more significance was the destruction of records in the registrar's office, making it almost impossible to determine grades of students.

In addition to the pellet fragments found in the bodies of the two victims, police also retrieved fragments of shrapnel from the ground.

Landry described the cause of death as resulting from multiple wounds of the head, including penetration of the brain and internal bleeding.

Only one of the pellets was intact while the others were fragments, Landry said, but all appeared to have been of the same type of buckshot.

SMITH HAD four wounds in the head and four in the left forearm, he said. The head wounds also were on the left side.

The unidentified man, Landry said, had six wounds in the head, one in the left shoulder and two that passed through the left wrist, hand and a finger.

He said the unknown victim wore an orange-red shirt and blue jeans.

Among the items found on him, Landry said, was a set of three or four keys. One appeared to be a car key.

Edwards said the campus would be reopened to students for normal classroom activity after Thanksgiving, but there would be no intimidation of students and others by demonstrators and peace would be kept.

STUDENTS FACE a serious problem of academic standing for the remainder of the year and the possible closing of the university if disorders continue.

One student, Pricilla Clues of Arnaudville, a member of the group that first went to Netterville's office Thursday morning, declared the students would not resume classes until Netterville resigns.

Dissident students have been seeking the resignation of both Netterville and Dean Emmet Bashful of the New Orleans branch of Southern.

Meanwhile, Chancellor Cecil Taylor of Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge issued a statement of sympathy for the Southern students.

"WE WISH TO offer the resources of LSU to the governor's committee, the state Board of Education, and to the students, the faculty and administration of Southern University in the hope that a peaceful solution to the conflict may soon be found," he said.

Earlier in the day, Dr. Netterville issued a statement expressing sorrow over the deaths of the two at Southern.